

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 CG-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 /086 W

----- 030132

P R 161645Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5513

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 6776

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, EAIR, ASAF, GR

SUBJECT: TWA CRASH

REF: NAHA'S 394

1. REFTEL REQUESTED A SHORT RUN DOWN OF AMERICAN EFFORTS TO LOCATE BODIES OF PASSENGERS AND CREW OF ILL-FATED TWA FLIGHT 841. YOU ALSO REQUESTED OUR ASSESSMENT OF POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER SEARCH EFFORTS IN CHANCE OF

FINDING OTHER REMAINS.

2. AMERICAN EFFORTS IN SEARCH OF AIR CRAFT, POSSIBLE SURVIVORS AND RECOVERY OF BODIES WAS ASSOCIATED WITH GOG AIR SEA SEARCH WHICH INCLUDED MERCHANT VESSELS AND NAVAL CRAFT. NEITHER AIRCRAFT DEBRIS NOR BODIES WERE LOCATED UNTIL APPROXIMATLY 12 HOURS FOLLOWING CRASH IN IONIAN SEA. TOTAL OF 24 BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED PLUS SOME AIRCRAFT DEBRIS. IT IS OPINION OF INVESTIGATORS THAT OTHER BODIES REMAIN IN AIRCRAFT FUSILAGE.

3. SERACH EFFORTS WERE COMPLICATED AND MADE EXTREMELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIFFICULT BY HIGH WINDS AND SEAS. WHEN SEAS CLAMED

THE FOLLOWING DAY BODIES ON SURFACE WERE PICKED UP
BY GREEK AND AMERICAN VESSELS AND SUBSEQUENTLY BROUGHT
TO ATHENS FOR IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS. AS OF NOW 16
BODIES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED, WITH POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER
IDENTIFICATION WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND CHANCE OF FINDING OTHER REMAINS ARE
NIL. DEPTH OF WATER IN AREA OF CRASH ESTIMATED AT OVER
10 THOUSAND FEET, THUS PRECLUDING RETRIEVAL OF FUSILAGE
WHICH PRESUMABLY INCLUDES OTHER BODIES.
STEARNS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PASSENGER LIST, CASUALTIES, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 16 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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